

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

1. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ A computer-implemented apparatus for managing addresses of websites, comprising:

an address list containing addresses of websites;

a ~~monitoring section~~ monitor monitoring a state of user references to Web sites; and

an updating ~~section~~ processor updating the contents of said address list according to the state of user references monitored by said ~~monitoring section~~ monitor, said updating including deleting from and adding to the contents of said address list according to the state of user references wherein said deleting occurs based on access failure of a website,

wherein, if the number of times the access failure has occurred with respect to one of the addresses contained in said address list becomes equal to a predetermined threshold value, said updating ~~section~~ processor deletes the one of the addresses from said address list, and

wherein said updating ~~section~~ processor has a line connected for reference to the Web sites, and if no input is supplied over a predetermined time period with respect to reference to any of the Web sites, said updating ~~section~~ processor tries to access each of the addresses contained in said address list, and deletes an address from said address list if the number of times failure has occurred continuously becomes equal to a predetermined threshold value by failure of said tries so as to delete an address of a relocated or extinguished Web site from said address list.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The computer-implemented apparatus for managing addresses of Web sites according to Claim 1, further comprising a connection section accessing to an address contained in said address list in case the address is designated.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The computer-implemented apparatus for managing addresses of Web sites according to Claim 1, wherein said ~~monitoring section~~ monitor records the frequency of access to the address of each Web site as a content of said state of references, and said updating ~~section~~ processor adds, to said address list, an address with an access frequency reached to a predetermined threshold value.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The computer-implemented apparatus for managing addresses of Web sites according to Claim 1, wherein said ~~monitoring section~~monitor records the frequency of access to the address of each Web site as a content of said state of references, and said updating ~~section~~processor deletes, from said address list, any of the addresses in said address list with an access frequency lower than a predetermined threshold value.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The computer-implemented apparatus for managing addresses of Web sites according to Claim 3, wherein the access frequency with respect to each of the Web sites is updated each time access to the Web site results in success, and wherein, when the access frequency is updated, said updating ~~section~~processor makes a determination whether or not the access frequency has reached the predetermined threshold value.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The computer-implemented apparatus for managing addresses of Web sites according to Claim 1, further comprising a supply section supplying a user with a setting window to enable the user to set the predetermined threshold value.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The computer-implemented apparatus for managing addresses of Web sites according to Claim 3, further comprising a supply section supplying a user with a setting window to enable the user to set the predetermined threshold value.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The computer-implemented apparatus for managing addresses of Web sites according to Claim 4, further comprising a supply section supplying a user with a setting window to enable the user to set the predetermined threshold value.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The computer-implemented apparatus for managing addresses of Web sites according to Claim 4, further comprising a supply section supplying a user with a setting window to enable the user to set the predetermined threshold value.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The computer-implemented apparatus for managing addresses of Web sites according to Claim 1, wherein said updating ~~section~~processor is

activated when an operating system controlling said address management apparatus is activated.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The computer-implemented apparatus for managing addresses of Web sites according to Claim 3, wherein said updating ~~section-processor~~ is activated when an operating system controlling said address management apparatus is activated.

14. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The computer-implemented apparatus for managing addresses of Web sites according to Claim 4, wherein said updating ~~section-processor~~ is activated when an operating system controlling said address management apparatus is activated.

15. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The computer-implemented apparatus for managing addresses of Web sites according to Claim 1, wherein the access frequency is the number of occurrences of access in a unit number of days, and said updating ~~section-processor~~ is activated when the date is changed.

16. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The computer-implemented apparatus for managing addresses of Web sites according to Claim 3, wherein the access frequency is the number of occurrences of access in a unit number of days, and said updating ~~section-processor~~ is activated when the date is changed.

17. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The computer-implemented apparatus for managing addresses of Web sites according to Claim 4, wherein the access frequency is the number of occurrences of access in a unit number of days, and said updating ~~section-processor~~ is activated when the date is changed.

18. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The computer-implemented apparatus for managing addresses of Web sites according to Claim 8, wherein said updating ~~section-processor~~ is activated when the setting of the predetermined threshold value is changed by the user.

19. (Currently Amended) A method of managing addresses of Web sites, comprising:
monitoring the state of user references to Web sites; and
updating the contents of an address list containing the addresses of the Web sites according to the state of user references monitored according to said monitoring, said updating

including deleting from and adding to the contents of said address list according to the state of user references wherein said deleting occurs based on access failure of a website, wherein, if the number of times the access failure has occurred with respect to one of the addresses contained in said address list becomes equal to a predetermined threshold value, said updating includes deleting the one of the addresses from said address list, and wherein said updating includes maintaining a line connected for reference to the Web sites, and if no input is supplied over a predetermined time period with respect to reference to any of the Web sites, said updating includes trying to access each of the addresses contained in said address list, and deleting an address from said address list if the number of times failure has occurred continuously becomes equal to a predetermined threshold value by failure of said trying so as to delete an address of a relocated or extinguished Web site from said address list.

20. (Currently Amended) A recording medium comprising a program recorded thereon, said program managing addresses of Web sites, wherein said program executes a process comprising:

making a computer monitor state of user references to the Web sites; and

updating contents of an address list containing the addresses of the Web sites according to results of monitoring performed in said monitoring, said updating including deleting from and adding to the contents of said address list according to the state of user references wherein said deleting occurs based on access failure of a website, wherein, if the number of times the access failure has occurred with respect to one of the addresses contained in said address list becomes equal to a predetermined threshold value, said updating includes deleting the one of the addresses from said address list, and wherein said updating includes maintaining a line connected for reference to the Web sites, and if no input is supplied over a predetermined time period with respect to reference to any of the Web sites, said updating includes trying to access each of the addresses contained in said address list, and deleting an address from said address list if the number of times failure has occurred continuously becomes equal to a predetermined threshold value by failure of said trial so as to delete an address of a relocated or extinguished Web site from said address list.

21. (Currently Amended) A method for managing website addresses, comprising:

if no input is supplied over a predetermined time period with respect to reference to any of the Web sites, trying to access each of the addresses contained in said address list, and deleting an address from said address list if the number of times failure has occurred continuously becomes equal to a predetermined threshold value so as to delete an address of a relocated or extinguished Web site from said address list.

22. (Cancelled)